

**Case 3388*****Buprestis angustula* Illiger, 1803 (Insecta, Coleoptera): proposed precedence of the specific name over that of *Buprestis pavidus* Fabricius, 1793**

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**Abstract.** The purpose of this application, under Article 23.9.3 of the Code, is to conserve the specific name *Agrilus angustulus* (Illiger, 1803) for a widely distributed species of jewel beetle (family BUPRESTIDAE) by giving it precedence over its unused senior synonym *Agrilus pavidus* (Fabricius, 1793).

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Coleoptera; BUPRESTIDAE; *Agrilus angustulus*; *Agrilus pavidus*; buprestids; jewel beetles; Europe; Asia.

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1. Illiger (1803, p. 240) established the name *Buprestis angustula* for a species of jewel beetle (family BUPRESTIDAE) from Portugal. *Buprestis angustula* has been placed in *Agrilus* Curtis, 1825 since Dejean (1833, p. 83). The species is common throughout Europe and Asia, and notes about its distribution and biology have been made by many authors including Faldermann (1839, p. 75); Marseul (1857, p. 92); Kiesenwetter (1857, p. 133); Thomson (1864, p. 30); Gemminger & Harold (1869, p. 1436); Saunders (1870, p. 3; 1871, p. 120); Kerremans (1892, p. 246; 1903, p. 275); Obenberger (1926, p. 654; 1936, p. 942); Théry (1942, p. 159); Schaefer (1949, p. 368); Horion (1955, p. 82); Lompe (1979, p. 235); Cobos (1986, p. 230); Curletti (1994, p. 152); Molino Olmedo (1998, p. 29); Bílý (2002, p. 11); Verdugo Paéz (2005, p. 203). The karyotype of *Agrilus angustulus* (Illiger, 1803) was examined by Karagyan, Kuznetsova & Lachowska (2004, p. 155) and mitochondrial DNA by Bernhard, Fritsch, Glöckner & Wurst (2005, p. 601). Zach (1994, p. 249) included this species among very serious physiological pests of oaks and also among the vectors of agriloid type of tracheomycoses. Bílý (2002, p. 11) considered it to be the most common European species of the genus *Agrilus*.

2. Fabricius (1793, p. 214) established the nominal species *Buprestis pavidus* without a statement of the type locality. The name *B. pavidus* was used by Fabricius (1796, p. 27; 1797, p. 52; 1801, p. 213); Herbst (1801, p. 263); Illiger (1803, p. 240) and Schönherr (1817, p. 259). *B. pavidus* has been placed in *Agrilus* Curtis, 1825 since Gory & Laporte (1837, p. 53). The combination *Agrilus pavidus* has been cited as a valid species name by Saunders (1870, p. 24; 1871, p. 119) and Kerremans (1892, p. 267; 1903, p. 288). Zimsen (1964, p. 156) mentioned two syntypes of *B. pavidus* preserved in Fabricius's collection in Copenhagen. Kiesenwetter (1857, p. 135) considered *B. pavidus* Fabricius, 1793 to be a dubious name: '*Bupr. pavidus* Fabr. ... ist eine nicht zu enträthselnde Art, die nicht weiter in Betracht gezogen werden kann' and the citation of *Agrilus pavidus* sensu Gory & Laporte (1837, p. 53) to be a misidentification of

*A. angustulus* (Illiger, 1803). The misidentified name *A. pavidus* sensu Gory & Laporte was frequently erroneously used in the synonymy of *A. angustulus* (Illiger, 1803), including Gemminger & Harold (1869, p. 1436), Saunders (1871, p. 120); Kerremans (1892, p. 246; 1903, p. 275); Obenberger (1935, p. 50); Cobos (1986, p. 315); Curletti (1994, p. 152); Brechtel & Kostenbader (2002, p. 211); Bílý (2002, p. 11). Obenberger in his world catalogue (1936, p. 946) confused the name *pavidus* Fabricius with the misidentification *pavidus* sensu Gory & Laporte which was the reason that the name *A. pavidus* (Fabricius) was overlooked.

3. I have examined two syntypes of *A. pavidus* (Fabricius, 1793) preserved in the Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen, Denmark and found them conspecific with *A. angustulus* (Illiger, 1803). *Agrilus angustulus* (Illiger, 1803) is a junior subjective synonym of *A. pavidus* (Fabricius, 1793). This latter name has not been used as valid since Kerremans (1903) and the name *Buprestis angustula* Illiger has been widely used for more than 200 years (see Abeille de Perrin, 1897; Alexandrovitch et al., 1996). A list of 181 references demonstrating the usage of *Buprestis angustula* is held by the Secretariat. However, the name *A. pavidus* (Fabricius, 1793) does not meet the requirements of Article 23.9.1.1 of the Code. This precludes the automatic reversal of precedence under the provisions of Article 23.9.2. Therefore this case is submitted to the Commission under Article 23.9.3.

4. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary power to give the specific name *angustula* Illiger, 1803, as published in the binomen *Buprestis angustula*, precedence over the name *pavida* Fabricius, 1793, as published in the binomen *Buprestis pavida*, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
  - (a) *angustula* Illiger, 1803, as published in the binomen *Buprestis angustula*, with the endorsement that it is to be given precedence over the name *pavida* Fabricius, 1793, as published in the binomen *Buprestis pavida*, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms;
  - (b) *pavida* Fabricius, 1793, as published in the binomen *Buprestis pavida*, with the endorsement that it is not to be given priority over the name *angustula* Illiger, 1803, as published in the binomen *Buprestis angustula*, whenever the two are considered to be synonyms.

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